

the movers and shakers

Who moved into Cache and Washington Counties in 2008?

Survey provides information
on new move-ins



We used to be in the dark about who was moving to town. Now, the Census Bureau's American Community survey provides limited demographic and economic information on new move-ins. However, yearly information is only available for two counties outside the confines of the Wasatch Front—Cache and Washington.

Interestingly, these two counties are fairly similar in size. The survey's population totals show Cache County with nearly 110,000 individuals and Washington County with roughly 134,000 citizens. (Don't confuse these numbers with official population estimates from either the Census Bureau or the Utah Population Estimates Committee.) However, the characteristics on these counties' in-migrants appear decidedly different.

What a Difference a Major University Makes

The survey compares where residents lived in the survey year and the previous year. Cache County's in-migrant numbers are heavily influenced by the influx of students to attend Utah State University. Washington County is home to Dixie State College. However, this smaller college proves much less of a draw to out-of-county students.

50%

40%

30%

20%

10%

Age of Cache County and Washington County InMigrants

2008



Cache County

Washington County

Under 18 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+

Moved from abroad

Moved from other states

Moved from other Utah counties

Moved within county

15,000

30,000

45,000

60,000

75,000

90,000

105,000

InMigration of Washington and Cache County Residents

Here's how the student exodus shows up: The survey showed that almost one-half of Cache County's 2008 in-migrants ranked between the ages of 18 and 24. While still substantial, this age group's proportion proved significantly smaller for Washington County (33 percent). Of course, young people in this age group typically manifest highest mobility of any age cohort. In contrast, during 2008, Washington County showed a noticeably higher share of in-migrants in the under-18 years-of-age group and in the 25-to-44 year-old age group than did Cache. Plus, despite its reputation as a retirement haven, only 4 percent of 2008 in-migrants were members of Washington County's 65-years-and-over category.

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.



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From Whence Did they come?

Interestingly, more people moved from one residence to another within Washington County in 2008 than moved from outside the county. Not so in Cache County. More than 17,000 of Cache County's movers changed addresses from outside the county compared to about 14,000 persons who moved from one residence to another inside the county. In addition, despite its smaller population base, Cache County showed a higher number of out-of-county in-migrants than did Washington County. In both areas, in-migrants were more likely to have moved from other Utah counties than from other states.

Sex, Money, and Education

The demographic and economic characteristics of in-migrants to Washington and Cache County exhibit remarkably different patterns. Again, they often reflect the heavy influx of students at Utah State University.

Only 41 percent of movers to Cache County were female compared to 55 percent of Washington County in-migrants.

More than 47 percent of Cache County in-migrants had a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to less than 19 percent for Washington County. Only 21 percent of in-migrants to Washington County had incomes below the poverty level compared to 35 percent in Cache County. Yes, most students really are "poor."

The median income of movers to Washington County from both inside and outside the state showed little difference. However, movers from within Utah to Cache County maintained much lower incomes than those moving from another state.

In both counties, roughly 70 percent of in-migrants rented rather than owned their residences. 📍

For more information on in-migrants, check out American FactFinder at www.census.gov



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